

ATTACHMENT B

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (currently amended) A method of moulding which comprises the steps of:
opening a mould by separating one mould component from another mould component to provide the one component with a space which opens upwardly, ~~and~~ a lower part of which space is in the form of a well,
feeding a charge of mouldable material into said space from above so that the charge falls into the well,
closing the mould by displacing said components into contact with one another thereby to define a closed moulding cavity which is extended downwardly by said well, and
reducing the volume of said well by relatively displacing a plunger which bounds the bottom of the well ~~relatively to~~ and the mound components thereby to displace mouldable material from said well into said moulding cavity and fill said moulding cavity.
2. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 2-1 and comprising displacing the plunger upwardly relatively to said mould components to reduce the volume of said well.
3. (original) A method as claimed in claim 1 and comprising displacing said mould components downwardly with respect to the plunger to reduce the volume of said well.
4. (original) A method as claimed in claim 3 and comprising displacing an upper mould component downwardly into contact with a lower mould component thereby to close said moulding cavity, and displacing said components in unison downwardly with respect to said plunger whilst maintaining said plunger in a fixed position.
5. (original) A method a claimed in claim 2 and comprising displacing an upper mould component downwardly into contact with a lower mould component thereby to close

said moulding cavity, and thereafter displacing said plunger upwardly relatively to said mould components.

6. (original) A method as claimed in claim 1 and comprising displacing a lower mould component and said plunger upwardly as a unit towards a fixed upper mould component until said lower mould component contacts said upper mould component, and thereafter displacing said plunger upwardly with respect to the stationary mould components.

7. (original) A method as claimed in claim 1, and comprising displacing a lower mould component and said plunger upwardly as a unit towards a fixed upper mould component until said lower mould component contacts said upper mould component, immobilizing said plunger, and thereafter forcing said mould components downwardly with respect to said immobilized plunger.

8. (currently amended) Moulding apparatus comprising:

an upper mould component,

a lower mould component,

means for displacing said components between a closed position in which ~~they said~~ components bound a moulding cavity ~~to and~~ an open position in which the lower component defines an upwardly open space, a lower part of said space being in the form of a well which, when the mould components are in contact, constitutes a downward extension of said moulding cavity so that ~~it~~ mouldable material to be moulded falls into said well,

a plunger forming the bottom of said well, and

means for displacing said mould components and said plunger relatively to one another thereby to reduce the volume of the well and displace the mouldable material out of said well and into said moulding cavity.

9. (currently amended) Moulding apparatus as claimed in claim 8, and including means for displacing said plunger upwardly with respect to the lower mould component to

reduce the volume of said well and displace the mouldable material out of said well and into said moulding cavity.

10. (currently amended) Moulding apparatus as claimed in claim 8 and including means for immobilizing said plunger and means for displacing said mould components downwardly with respect to the plunger to reduce the volume of said well and displace the mouldable material out of said well and into said moulding cavity.

11.-17. (canceled)